

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 SSO-00 PPT-02 L-03 /019 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:TMDEFORD:GJ

APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

SCA/SCS: MR. GREEN (PHONE)

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O R 192228Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CPRS CDES SA

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC FATALITY OF U.S. CITIZEN IN DHAHRAN

1. BILL BRIGGS, AMF CO. REP, CALLED DESK JULY 19 TO DISCUSS PROBLEM AMF SUBSIDIARY, TUBOSCOPE (OF HOUSTON) IS NOW FACING IN SAUDI ARABIA AS RESULT DEATH EARLY MORNING, JULY 19, ONE OF THEIR AMERICAN EMPLOYEES, TIMOTHY MARKEL, IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENT. MARKEL APPARENTLY WAS DRIVER OF TRUCK WHICH BECAME INVOLVED IN ACCIDENT (PROBABLY WITH ANOTHER TRUCK, BUT FACTS OBSCURE). TWO SAUDIS WERE ALSO KILLED IN ACCIDENT. BRIGGS THINKS TWO SAUDIS WERE IN TRUCK DRIVEN BY MARKEL BUT UNSURE ON THIS POINT ALSO. SAUDI POLICE RECOVERED MARKEL'S PASSPORT AT SCENE OF ACCIDENT AND NOTED HE HAD ONLY VISITOR'S VISA AND NOT WORKING PERMIT. MARKEL HAD APPARENTLY BEEN IN COUNTRY ABOUT TWO WEEKS.

2. SAUDIS HAVE TAKEN MARKEL'S BODY TO LOCAL MORGUE AND ARE REFUSING TO RELEASE IT IN VIEW APPARENT IRREGULARITIES SURROUNDING HIS PRESENCE IN COUNTRY. TVBOSCOPE'S MIDDLE EAST REP, EBERT, ARRIVING NIGHT JULY 19 IN DHAHRAN AND WILL BE CONTACTING CONGEN BAHTI FIRST THING SATURDAY MORNING. BRIGGS UNDERSTANDS DIFFICULTY OF SITUATION AND ASKS THAT CONGEN PROVIDE EBERT WITH ASSISTANCE IN

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OBTAINING GOOD LAWYER IN ORDER EXPEDITE RELEASE OF MARKEL'S

BODY FOR U.S. BURIAL. INGERSOLL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: blochd0
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